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Ldellor
5/15/01

PATENT
540-009.002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Serial No. To be Assigned

5 Filed: Herewith

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: Examiner: To be Assigned

: Group Art Unit: To be Assigned

For: **METHOD AND ARRANGEMENT FOR MAINTAINING AND UPDATING NETWORK ELEMENT CONFIGURATION IN AN xDSL NETWORK, AND AN xDSL NETWORK ELEMENT**

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In conjunction with the filing of the above-referenced U.S. patent application, please preliminarily amend the patent application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, line 5, please delete "TECHNOLOGICAL" and substitute therefore
--TECHNICAL--.

On page 3, line 32-33, please delete "is characterised in what is said in the characterising portion of the independent claim that is directed to such a method." and
25 substitute therefore --performs the steps of transmitting a request for configuration information from a first network element located on a first hierarchical level to a second network element located on a second hierarchical level, which second hierarchical level is above the first hierarchical level in the xDSL network but which second network element is other than the network managing station, deciding, at the second network element that is other than the network managing station, whether it is appropriate to read the configuration information requested in the request for configuration information from a configuration memory of the second network element, and in case it is decided to be appropriate, reading

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